

The Agency

Public Higher Education

Agency Operations

The mission of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education is to provide an excellent, efficient, accessible and affordable system of higher education designed to improve the overall educational attainment of Rhode Islanders and thereby enrich the intellectual, economic, social and cultural life of the state, its residents and its communities.

The Board consists of twelve public members appointed by the Governor and the Chair of the Board of Regents for Elementary/Secondary Education. The Board is staffed by the Office of Higher Education under the direction of the Commissioner who also serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

The Office of Higher Education is the policy development, research and monitoring arm of the Board of Governors. The Office is organized into four units: Academic and Student Affairs, External Affairs, Legal and Labor Relations, and Finance and Management. Its principal responsibilities include: the preparation of a public higher education budget and capital development program and the development of policies in the pursuit of the primary goal of improving overall educational attainment in the state through a commitment to excellence, opportunity and access, diversity and responsiveness, coordination, and accountability in public higher education.

Statutory History

In 1981, The Rhode Island Legislature reorganized the governance of education in Rhode Island in the effect dividing the Board of Regents, then responsible for education from kindergarten through the graduate level, into two governing units -- the Board of Regents, which retained responsibility for Elementary/Secondary Education, and the Board of Governors, which was given responsibility for higher education. The legislature held that the Board of Governors not be a Department of State government, but rather an independent public corporation which acts in concert and cooperation with the executive and legislative branches in the best interest of the higher education needs of Rhode Islanders. This legal independence applies not only to matters of educational policy, but also to fiscal and budgetary matters, personnel administration and property ownership and control.

The Budget

Public Higher Education

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Board of Governors/OHE	12,929,072	9,875,804	11,121,545	10,444,071	10,637,547
University of Rhode Island	529,108,817	569,723,927	587,064,490	607,619,620	637,149,130
Rhode Island College	131,460,101	136,939,517	156,150,286	147,457,793	154,697,677
Community College of Rhode Island	116,408,577	124,219,989	132,433,411	131,588,011	130,399,824
Total Expenditures	\$789,906,567	\$840,759,237	\$886,769,732	\$897,109,495	\$932,884,178
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	420,287,229	416,242,854	466,479,813	428,525,891	442,489,032
Operating Supplies and Expenses	168,960,606	172,852,890	171,441,473	180,781,053	186,374,197
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	146,012,210	185,976,738	175,889,948	204,281,662	221,186,195
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$735,260,045	\$775,072,482	\$813,811,234	\$813,588,606	\$850,049,424
Capital Purchases and Equipment	11,423,974	10,593,085	30,810,592	41,551,349	37,010,888
Debt Service	31,088,557	34,716,042	42,147,906	39,055,447	42,806,975
Operating Transfers	12,133,991	20,377,628	-	2,914,093	3,016,891
Total Expenditures	\$789,906,567	\$840,759,237	\$886,769,732	\$897,109,495	\$932,884,178
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	189,982,773	170,814,823	173,306,844	162,966,485	163,878,632
Federal Funds	4,924,539	3,735,334	20,338,416	19,641,010	14,754,667
Restricted Receipts	715,937	651,932	667,543	754,577	690,000
Other Funds	594,283,318	665,557,148	692,456,929	713,747,423	753,560,879
Total Expenditures	\$789,906,567	\$840,759,237	\$886,769,732	\$897,109,495	\$932,884,178
FTE Authorization					
Sponsored Research	3,549.8	3,395.0	3,397.1	3,397.1	3,397.1
Total	785.0	785.0	785.0	785.0	785.0
	4,334.8	4,180.0	4,182.1	4,182.1	4,182.1
Agency Measures					
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	9.3%	9.1%	11.1%	11.1%	11.5%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	55.0%	53.3%	56.9%	56.9%	56.5%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	-	-	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%

The Program

Public Higher Education Board of Governors/Office of Higher Education

Program Operations

The Board of Governors for Higher Education was established by the General Assembly in 1981.

Program Objective

To ensure that public higher education remains economically and geographically accessible to all qualified residents in Rhode Island; deliver public higher education programs on a cost-effective basis; remain coordinated in program offerings, responsive in services and accountable in operations; and to pursue the major goal of excellence in education.

Statutory History

The Board of Governors is established under Title 16, Chapter 59 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and is successor to the authority previously exercised over public higher education by the Board of Regents for Education until 1981. At that time, the Board of Regents was abolished and its authority vested in three new entities: The Board of Governors for Higher Education; the Board of regents for Elementary/Secondary Education as designated in Title 26, Chapter 60; and the Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority as designated in Title 16, Chapter 61 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Board of Governors/Office of Higher Education

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	2,025,670	2,103,182	2,836,261	2,439,613	2,510,560
Operating Supplies and Expenses	3,752,908	3,513,298	3,579,702	3,401,474	3,524,143
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	7,140,118	4,259,324	4,697,932	3,981,396	4,055,641
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$12,918,696	\$9,875,804	\$11,113,895	\$9,822,483	\$10,090,344
Capital Purchases and Equipment	10,376	-	7,650	93,385	19,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	528,203	528,203
Total Expenditures	\$12,929,072	\$9,875,804	\$11,121,545	\$10,444,071	\$10,637,547
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	7,907,869	6,610,474	7,364,037	6,922,455	7,153,767
Federal Funds	4,924,539	3,265,330	3,757,508	3,409,039	3,483,780
Restricted Receipts	96,664	-	-	112,577	-
Total Expenditures	\$12,929,072	\$9,875,804	\$11,121,545	\$10,444,071	\$10,637,547
Program Measures					
Public Higher Education Enrollees Aged 18-24 as a Percentage of State Population Aged 18-24	20.5%	22.2%	22.2%	22.2%	19.9%

The Program

Public Higher Education University of Rhode Island

Program Operations

The University of Rhode Island is the principal public research and graduate institution in the State of Rhode Island with responsibilities for expanding knowledge, for transmitting it, and for fostering its application. Its status as a land grant, sea grant, and urban grant institution highlights its traditions of natural resource, marine, and urban-related research. The University is committed to providing strong undergraduate programs to promote students' ethical development and capabilities as critical and independent thinkers. To meet student and societal needs, it offers undergraduate professional education programs in a wide range of disciplines. Graduate programs provide rigorous advanced study and research opportunities for personal and professional development. With undergraduate and graduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences and focus programs in the areas of marine and environmental studies; health; children, families, and communities; and enterprise and advanced technology, the University strives to meet the rapidly changing needs of the State, the country, and the world.

Program Objective

Fulfill the education mission of the University by providing traditional and non-traditional opportunities for education at the undergraduate and graduate levels, conduct research, and support other scholarly activities.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31 and 32 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to the University of Rhode Island.

The Budget

Public Higher Education University of Rhode Island

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	255,697,830	250,647,560	273,171,799	258,571,715	267,796,099
Operating Supplies and Expenses	127,925,693	127,702,880	124,876,225	134,333,517	136,620,234
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	108,490,762	147,000,492	138,691,067	161,625,417	174,598,792
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	492,114,285	525,350,932	536,739,091	554,530,649	579,015,125
Capital Purchases and Equipment	4,682,079	5,113,612	15,422,117	20,032,983	21,679,397
Debt Service	23,544,587	26,982,298	34,903,282	33,055,988	36,454,608
Operating Transfers	8,767,866	12,277,085	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$529,108,817	\$569,723,927	\$587,064,490	\$607,619,620	\$637,149,130
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	85,334,312	74,782,808	75,784,427	71,897,834	72,576,691
Federal Funds	-	470,004	7,645,103	7,296,166	5,036,744
Other Funds	443,774,505	494,471,115	503,634,960	528,225,620	559,535,695
Total Expenditures	\$529,108,817	\$569,723,927	\$587,064,490	\$607,419,620	\$637,149,130
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	6.0%	6.0%	9.8%	9.8%	9.9%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	4.3%	4.4%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	4.2%	4.6%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.4%	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	88.2%	88.5%	96.6%	96.6%	91.5%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	57.5%	57.9%	60.1%	60.1%	60.1%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	81.0%	80.1%	78.8%	78.8%	78.8%

The Program

Public Higher Education Rhode Island College

Program Operations

Rhode Island College is the State's comprehensive public institution of higher education. Its primary mission is to make its academic programs available to any qualified resident of Rhode Island who can benefit from its educational services. The College offers programs of study in that array of disciplines traditionally considered as the liberal arts, including humanities, social sciences, sciences, and fine arts, and a broad array of professional offerings in the health and helping professions, education, management, and technology. Selected curricula are offered at the graduate level within the liberal arts and in applied and practitioner oriented fields within the service sector. Liberal education refers to learning opportunities designed to ensure that students have a breadth of educational experiences, which foster the development of insights and multiple perspectives on ideas, issues, and events, as well as an appreciation of the interconnectedness of fields of knowledge, and the value dimensions of the human condition.

Program Objective

The College is dedicated to making a high quality education accessible to a diverse group of students. Through its educational, social and cultural programs and activities, the College seeks to contribute to the professional mobility and advancement of its students and alumni, to the economic development of the State of Rhode Island, and to the enrichment of the larger community.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31 and 33 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to Rhode Island College.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Rhode Island College

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	86,516,745	87,316,138	101,448,046	88,430,271	92,018,119
Operating Supplies and Expenses	18,483,284	19,138,114	23,276,960	22,110,231	23,786,245
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	15,567,143	17,258,896	17,432,508	18,903,566	22,314,811
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$120,567,172	\$123,713,148	\$142,157,514	\$129,444,068	\$138,119,175
Capital Purchases and Equipment	2,138,069	2,154,377	8,295,003	11,366,798	9,583,287
Debt Service	6,017,039	6,121,017	5,697,769	4,451,533	4,703,523
Operating Transfers	2,737,821	4,950,975	-	2,195,394	2,291,692
Total Expenditures	\$131,460,101	\$136,939,517	\$156,150,286	\$147,457,793	\$154,697,677
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	47,539,037	43,108,657	42,186,799	39,663,781	39,587,617
Federal Funds	-	-	5,695,093	5,695,093	3,973,232
Other Funds	83,921,064	93,830,860	108,268,394	102,098,919	111,136,828
Total Expenditures	\$131,460,101	\$136,939,517	\$156,150,286	\$147,457,793	\$154,697,677
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	6.0%	9.8%	7.3%	7.3%	9.0%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	5.3%	5.6%	5.2%	5.2%	5.3%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	5.6%	6.6%	6.0%	6.0%	6.2%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	95.2%	92.9%	98.1%	98.1%	95.0%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	45.0%	46.1%	45.0%	45.0%	45.0%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	75.4%	76.6%	77.0%	77.0%	77.0%

The Program

Public Higher Education Community College of Rhode Island

Program Operations

The Community College of Rhode Island is the largest public, two-year degree-granting college in New England. The Community College provides a variety of vocational, technical and academic programs at campuses in Warwick, Lincoln and Providence.

As a community-based college, the Community College is also committed to providing a wide range of programs, workshops and seminars to benefit area students, businesses and governmental agencies. In every sense, the Community College of Rhode Island strives to meet the educational needs of the commuters and the people of the state.

Program Objective

Fulfill the education mission of the Community College by providing academic transfer and career-oriented training of the highest caliber giving special attention to the quality of offerings and effectiveness of instruction, and offering students support services necessary to achieve their educational goals.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31, 33.1, and 44 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to the Community College of Rhode Island.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Community College of Rhode Island

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	76,046,984	76,175,974	89,023,707	79,084,292	80,164,254
Operating Supplies and Expenses	18,798,721	22,498,598	19,708,586	20,935,831	22,443,575
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	14,814,187	17,458,026	15,068,441	19,771,283	20,216,951
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$109,659,892	\$116,132,598	\$123,800,734	\$119,791,406	\$122,824,780
Capital Purchases and Equipment	4,593,450	3,325,096	7,085,822	10,058,183	5,729,204
Debt Service	1,526,931	1,612,727	1,546,855	1,547,926	1,648,844
Operating Transfers	628,304	3,149,568	-	190,496	196,996
Total Expenditures	\$116,408,577	\$124,219,989	\$132,433,411	\$131,588,011	\$130,399,824
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	49,201,555	46,312,884	47,971,581	44,482,415	44,560,557
Federal Funds	-	-	3,240,712	3,240,712	2,260,911
Restricted Receipts	619,273	651,932	667,543	642,000	690,000
Other Funds	66,587,749	77,255,173	80,553,575	83,222,884	82,888,356
Total Expenditures	\$116,408,577	\$124,219,989	\$132,433,411	\$131,588,011	\$130,399,824
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	6.0%	8.6%	9.3%	9.3%	8.2%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	7.5%	7.5%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	12.1%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%	12.4%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.6%	2.6%	2.5%	2.5%	2.6%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (RN)	85.9%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	95.0%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (LPN)	90.9%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	90.0%
Student Success Rate	30.2%	32.5%	33.0%	33.0%	33.5%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	62.6%	60.9%	62.0%	62.0%	62.0%